

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

An image pickup apparatus providing improved picture quality by ~~correcting~~ use of correction data to correct for noise signals generated by clamping circuits. A plurality of pixels each including a photoelectric converting element is provided along with a plurality of capacitors which receive signals from the pixels at first terminals. A plurality of clamping switches set a second terminal of each of the plurality of capacitors to a predetermined electric potential, and a plurality of first storing units store signals from the second terminals of the plurality of capacitors. A plurality of second storing units store the signals from the second terminals of the capacitors, and a first common output line sequentially outputs the signals from the plurality of first storing units. A second common output line receives signals sequentially output from the plurality of second storing units, and a difference circuit determines a difference between the signal from the first common output line and the signal from the second common output line.